

# Commission News

February 2014

Volume 2, Issue 2

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### Inside this issue:

All Around Town	2
In Sympathy	2
The Valentine	3
Love Notes	3
Saying Good-Bye	4
March Calendar	4

- **SPECIAL NOTES:**
- April is National Autism Month
- April is National Stress Awareness Month
- April is National Fair Housing Month
- April is Flower Awareness Month
- April is National Health Awareness Month
- April is Alcohol Awareness Month

### February is African American History Month

The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society.

The Network to Freedom coordinates preservation and education efforts nationwide and integrates local historical places, museums, and interpretive programs associated with the Underground Railroad into a mosaic of

community, regional, and national stories.

To document the events in the life and times of our historians, the Library of Congress also promotes a film, "Created Equal" which brings together four nationally-acclaimed documentary films on the long Civil Rights movement. The NEH Created Equal project uses the power of documentary films to encourage public discussion and education about the changing meanings of freedom and equality in America.

The four films (*The Abolitionists*, *Slavery By Another Name*, *Freedom Riders* and *The Loving Story*)

tell the remarkable stories of individuals who challenged the social and legal status quo, from slavery to segregation.

African Americans serving in the military service throughout U.S. history have often fought on two fronts: fighting the actual enemy and fighting a system of segregation and exclusion.

Two of the most celebrated February holidays - Black History Month and St. Valentine's Day... coincidence or not, the message of Love has been given a stronger voice.



"Happiness is the consequence of personal effort. You fight for it, strive for it, insist upon it, and sometimes even travel around the world looking for it. You have to participate relentlessly in the manifestations of your own blessings; and once you have achieved a state of happiness, you must never become lax about maintaining what you have fought so hard to gain. Helping your soul hold tight to its good attainments is essential to your soul survival and a testimony of your greatest reward."

— Elizabeth Gilbert, *Eat, Pray, Love*



State & Federal offices closed in observance of President's Day

usually celebrated on the third Monday of February in honor of George Washington, the first President of the United States!



From wrinkle creams and chemical peels to Botox and body sculpting, Americans are waging a multibillion dollar war against growing old. In record numbers, they are paying through their capped teeth and re-shaped noses to have of-fending, aging flesh lifted, shifted, sucked and sliced away. This eight-part series looks at the patients, the doctors, the costs and the risks of this booming business.

"Freedom is never given; it is won."

A. Philip Randolph

## ALL AROUND OUR TOWN!



**Shen Yun, World's Classical Chinese Dancers - March 11-12, 7:30 p.m. Clay Center for the Arts**

& Sciences.

**Tickets: \$50-\$150.00**

**For tickets or more information, contact Clay Center Box office online or call 304-561-3570.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Charleston Ballet :  
La Bayadere**

La Bayadere The Temple Dancer- Set in exotic India, this full-length ballet is a love triangle between Nikiya, a bayadere or temple dancer; Solar a noble warrior, and Gamzatti, beautiful daughter of the wealthy Raja.

With a rich score by Min-kus, this classical ballet was first performed in St. Petersburg's Maryinsky Theater in 1877. The famed second act "Kingdom of the Shades" is one of the most well known in the ballet repertoire. Performed with many guest dancers from Columbia Classical Ballet in South Carolina, you won't want to miss this premier West Virginia performance of LA BAYADERE (The Temple Dancer).



## INSPIRATIONAL CORNER!



*Both Dr. Hazo Carter and Judge Phyllis Carter were pillars of the Charleston-Institute areas for the 25 years that they worked and served the citizens of West Virginia in their respective capacities. Their devotion to the State of West Virginia and the betterment of all people cannot be surpassed, nor adequately replaced for their work that has left their indelible signature not only in the State of West Virginia but in every city they visited.*

*Words alone can never express the magnitude of their absence from this earthly existence but we are comforted with the spirit of their presence, the ideals and principals of their passions. And the quality of professionalism they modeled as pillars and champions of humanity.*



*"We must embrace Pain... and burn it as fuel for our journey forward." - Kenji Miyazawa (rsv)*

*I am the wind, I am the rain, I am the sunlight through your windowpane. I am the leaf turning brown in the fall, I am the faintest whisper in the breeze when call...I am the snowflake, dancing merrily to the ground, I am the rainbow hovering all around. I'm the scent of spring flows that fill the Spring air, Wherever you look for me...I am there...*

*The Commissioners and staff of the WV Human Rights Commission, extend our heartfelt sympathies to Angela Carter, daughter of Dr. Hazo and Judge Phyllis H. Carter & to the entire Carter family in the loss of their loved ones.*

## HOW IT CAME TO BE!!

**Saint Valentine's Day**, also known as **Valentine's Day** or the **Feast of Saint Valentine**, is observed on February 14 each year. It is celebrated in many countries around the world, although it is not a holiday in most of them.

St. Valentine's Day began as a liturgical celebration of one or more early Christian saints named Valentinus. Several martyrdom stories were invented for the various Valentines that belonged to February 14th and added to later martyrologies. A popular hagiographical account of Saint Valentine of Rome states that he was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to Christians, who were persecuted under the Roman Empire.

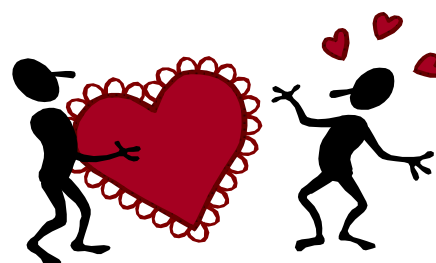
According to legend, during his imprisonment, he healed the daughter of his jailer, Asterius. An embellishment to this story states that before his execution he wrote her a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell. Today, Saint Valentine's Day is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion, as well as in the Lutheran Church. The Eastern Orthodox Church also celebrates Saint Valentine's Day, albeit on July 6 and July 30, the former date in honor of the Roman presbyter Saint Valentine, and the latter date in honor of Hieromartyr Valentine, the Bishop of Interamna (modern Terni). In Brazil, the *Dia de São Valentim* is recognized on June 12th.

The day was first associated with romantic love

in the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished.

In 18th-century England, it evolved into an occasion in which lovers expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines").

Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards.



*"A Bird and a Fish can fall in love but where will they live?"* Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction? What you want is suitability and compatibility. Don't settle!!! Examine what you have in a relationship to see if you have "a partner or a project." Fast-foods, fill you up quick but they're also full of a lot of things that bloat are just enough to satisfy until the "real" meal comes along!

"Don't Settle for less than what you know you will be completely

satisfied with. Don't worry about the people who leaves you, be concerned about the ones who stay. You never have to deal with the opinions, attitudes, etc., of folk who leave you; but the folk who are constantly around you, touting their opinions, giving off their attitudes and unsolicited opinions of who they "think" you are or are not or of who they think you ought to be is the epitome of frustration.

*Love is patient... Love is kind, so Don't Settle!!*

So what if you're feeling rejected? Listen, the only way that can happen is when you've assigned a higher value to what others think of you than what you think of yourself. Don't open yourself up and reveal that much of yourself to people who will only remain closed and guarded toward you. You can change your hair, your dress size; lose or gain weight, change professions... all of that to please somebody else and it usually only last for a while if at all. If you decide to make any of those changes... let it be because YOU decide to because of seeking a healthier lifestyle, or an uplifting emotional outlook on life... let it be about you!! Not about pleasing them. Other people's opinions can become like excess baggage—stuffed and costly!! **DON'T SETTLE!!**

*Trust me on this one!*



## WVHRC

West Virginia Human  
Rights Commission  
1321 Plaza East, Rm. 108-A  
Charleston, WV 25301

Phone: 304-558-2616  
Fax: 304-558-0085  
E-mail: [Mary.K.Jacquet@wv.org](mailto:Mary.K.Jacquet@wv.org)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday  
8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Please visit our website for more information  
and updates.

Web address: [www.hrc.wv.org](http://www.hrc.wv.org)

**Walk-ins  
welcome!**



**We are a neutral  
agency!!**

### *Always hard to say good-bye:*

Pictured with departing staff, Phil Gardner (center blue shirt) are the staff of the Human Rights Commission who were on hand, January, 31, 2014 to bid him a fond farewell and wish him well as he move on to DHHR's Medicaid Fraud Unit.

Phil, worked as a Housing Investigator with the Housing Unit and though his time with the Commission was brief, his pleasant personality and cheerful conversations will be sorely missed.

## MARCH 2014 - WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9  Daylight Savings Time	10	11	12	13	14 Pay-Day	15
16	17 	18	19	20 	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Pay-Day					